

## Christmas Faire

### Sign Up Now!

Homemade cookies, toys and other holiday favors.

**DECEMBER 3 and 4**

**Call Vicki Wills, Ext. 7115.**

## Instant Reaction, Cool Judgment Save Patron

Three BART station agents, Diane Johnson, Diane Odom and Wayne Harada displayed cool-headed judgment in August when a young man jumped from the platform at the Berkeley Station onto the trackway as an arriving train pulled into the station.

Station Agent Johnson, who had just gone off duty, tripped power to the trackway and notified BART Central of what had taken place.

She recruited the help of an Alameda County Deputy Sheriff, who was waiting for a train. He responded immediately and pulled the young man up from the tracks right in front of the train. The deputy's action is credited with saving the man from injury.

In the meantime, Johnson had kept in communication with BART Central and was able to tell Central when the track was clear. Her actions helped keep the delay in passenger service to a minimum. She received a letter of commendation from Wilson Johnson, Assistant Chief Transportation Officer.

Station Agent Harada was alerted to the situation by calls from BART patrons on the platform. He notified BART Police and went downstairs to the platform. He ascertained that the man who was pulled from the trackway was not injured and helped restore a mood of calm and usual procedure to the station.

Station Agent Odom also went to the platform and helped to calm the man who was pulled from the tracks. She also helped to restore a mood of calm to the station.

Agents Odom and Harada received letters of appreciation for their actions.

## Ormsbee Retirement Inspires an Ode

Phillip Ormsbee, who had been District Secretary of BART since September, 1978, has retired.

He joined BART in April, 1966, as an Information Officer in the Public Relations Department and four years later was promoted to Assistant to the General Manager. In March, 1973, he was named Director of Public Relations and in November, 1975, he was named Director of Special Services.

Prior to joining BART, Phil worked as assistant news and wire editor for the Beloit Daily News in Beloit, Wisconsin, and came to California in 1960 as a general assignment reporter/photographer for the Antioch Daily Ledger. In 1964, he was named Managing Editor of the Contra Costa Suns, a group of four weekly newspapers.

In Phil's honor, Marion Dewies composed an ode to wish him well in his retirement. BARTalk is pleased to share the ode with you.

*Time for painting, playing golf  
and refurbishing those antique boats.  
Time for fishing, glass staining  
and time to sow some brand-new oats!  
Phillip, historically speaking,  
your BART book will be  
a best seller.  
'Cause all in all you are  
a heck of a clever fellow!  
It seems the excitement  
of newspaper reporting*



**PHIL ORMSBEE**

*was too tame in those bygone days,  
so you joined BART in the sixties  
and for 26 years you just  
stayed and stayed.*

*District Secretary, what an honor,  
and what a selfless and responsible  
post.*

*Now it's your time to relax,  
lay back and enjoy  
and our time to be the host.  
The best of M.C.s at local functions  
and affairs*

*You brought laughter into our lives—  
eliminating tears.*

*Bye-bye birdie, bye-bye birdie,  
as Oliver, your friendly parrot, would  
say!*

*It's time for retirement  
and enjoyment,  
So, Phil, don't delay.*

*Have a wonderful life  
full of good health and happiness.  
Your friends will miss you dearly  
and we all wish you much success.*



**JOHNSON**



**ODOM**



**HARADA**

# BART Helps Overcome That Old 'Catch 22'

Next to a college education, job experience is the most important thing you have in the 'real world.' Unfortunately for students, this is more often than not a Catch 22. You can't get a job because you have no experience, but you have no experience because you can't seem to get a job. Fortunately, some brilliant soul found a solution to this great dilemma and that solution is the Summer Youth Program! In the early 1950s the National Urban League sponsored the Job Training Partnership Act. The bill was designed to help lower-income persons gain the skills and education they needed to succeed. Today

shootings to an office of educated adults who are motivated and directed and somewhat unaware of the world of the youths. Nonetheless, the good far outweighs the bad and for most the summer is a great success.

At the head of this endeavor is Affirmative Action Analyst, Brenda Blue. Every summer Brenda faces the huge task of matching 150 youth, their skills and their desires with the request of BART employees. The goal in this process is to place the youth in a job where he or she will learn the most and be most comfortable and, for BART employees, finding a youth who

all "we liked Greg's lectures on life!" says Ngoc Nguyen. "We didn't like filing but we understand it comes with what we do and we definitely didn't like being treated like little kids," said John Tse.

The lucky supervisors of these bright kids refer to themselves as BART's Dream Team. Greg Wong and John Prowzink of Engineering and Construction were very complimentary about their summer youth. "They helped out a lot, they were very enthusiastic and diligent in their work. They have artistic skills on the Mac and they enjoy working on it," says Wong. These two earned the title 'Dream Team' because



*Part of the hard-working crew to put together BART's summer job youth program are, from left, in photograph at left, Chris Flynn, Administrative Engineer, Project Systems, Ngoc Nguyen, Stefanie Gee and Brenda Blue, in charge of the jobs program. Also shown are four of the participants in the photograph, from left, Frederick Lusk, Naika Phraser, Martha Lira and Mikhail Pyatigorski. At far right is BART's Librarian, Pat Hoar.*

this act translates into a federally funded program that places youth in jobs in non-profit organizations for minimum wage. Outside of the time the youth spends on the job, he or she receives 20 hours of instruction in areas such as interview skills, phone skills, resume writing and appropriate professional behavior. For years BART has been a proud participant in this program, placing over 100 youths each summer. Like most things, on paper this program appears to be an incredibly beneficial opportunity, and it is, but the reality is that it is a great challenge to both the inexperienced youth and the daring supervisor. "I work harder when the summer youth are here more than any other time. I'm doing my own work and trying to find projects for them," says Patricia Hoar, BART Librarian. For the youth that challenge is going from a world of cheerleaders and football games or drugs and drive-by

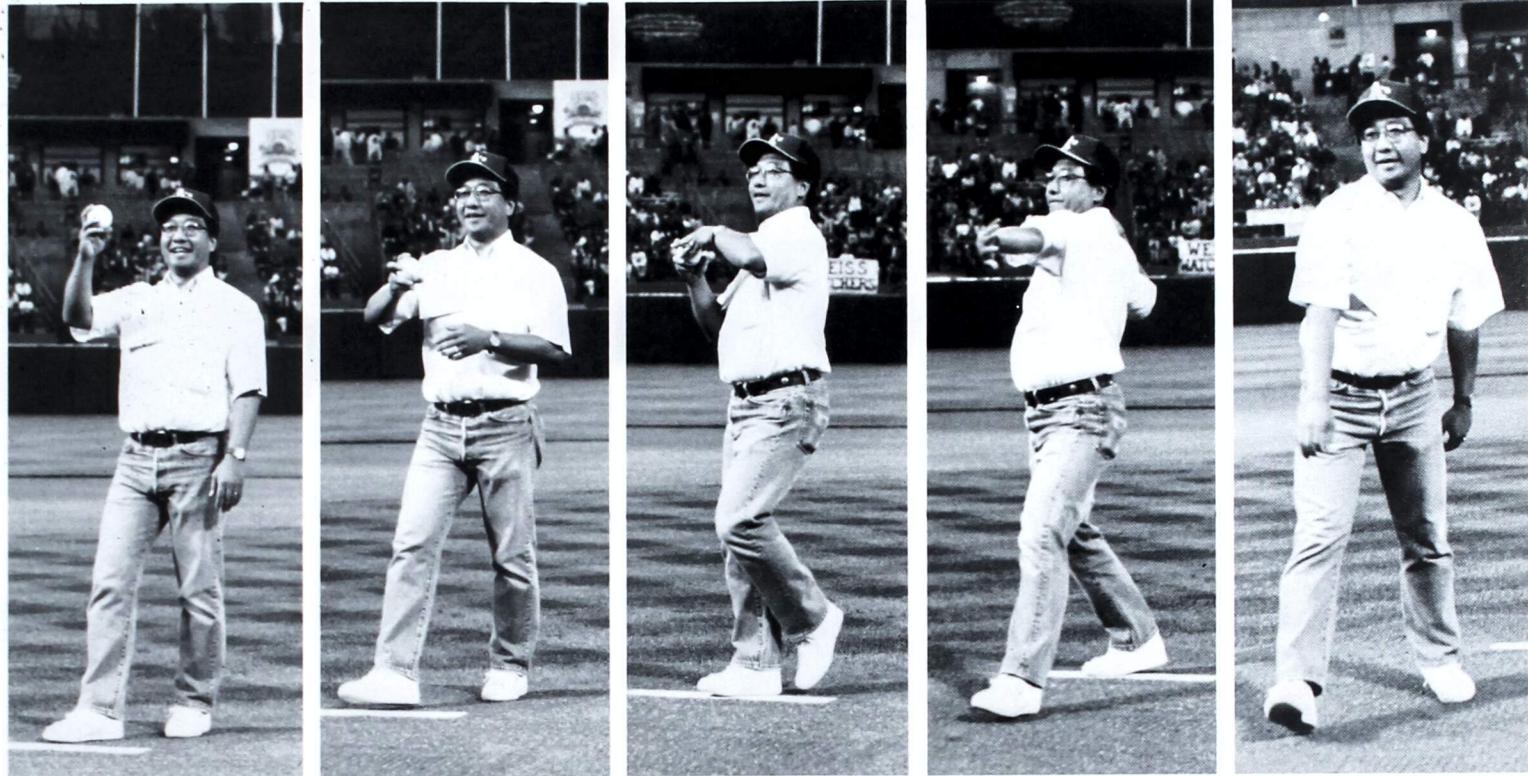
will meet their requests most effectively. Unfortunately this process is not as simple as matching a name with a piece of paper. "The most important thing is cooperation on the part of the supervisor—that they be patient and willing to work with the youth," says Brenda.

This year we had a surprising addition to the program: five students from the engineering academy of Oakland Technical High School. Most of these students are entering their freshman year of college this fall as engineering majors and they could not say enough good things about their time spent at BART. "We got a real feel for what engineers do and we improved on some skills we already learned," says senior David Yu. The students performed a variety of tasks from filing to designing drawings on the computer. Of the entire summer their favorite things were the variety of tasks and being kept busy, but most of

of their philosophy on supervising. "I explained BART to them, how it was put together and how things get done. It is important to find out where you are so you can progress," says Prowzink. As for Greg, "I tell them that in the engineering field you need to be able to communicate. When I was in school I thought it was a menial skill but now I see it's not. I tell them that a computer is a good investment, it is a good tool and not to have a fear of it. You have to go with technology." The amazing thing here is that what Greg and John wanted to teach their summer youth is what those youth actually learned. John Tse says, "I am more comfortable with the computer, I can just press buttons and I don't have to worry because I know what I am doing." Ngoc Nguyen says, "I like knowing what is going to happen to BART in the future."

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# Here's the Windup... ...and the Pitch



*Mike Maeda throws out the ceremonial first pitch of the ballgame.*

More than 50 BART employees and members of their families helped root the Oakland Athletics to a 7-6 win over the Cleveland Indians at BART Night at the A's in August.

The BART contingent couldn't have asked for better weather for

the game—a nice summer evening, perfect for baseball!

Before the game, the BART fans were the guests of the A's organization at a special buffet dinner in the Oakland Room at the Coliseum.

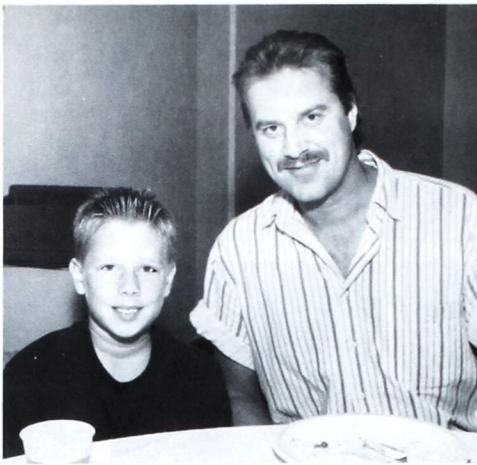
The menu included traditional baseball hot dogs, baked beans, po-

tato chips, salad and cake. Beer, wine and soft drinks were also available.

Sy Mouber, pinch-hitting for Vicki Wills, who has organized the event for seven years but was unable to attend this year, welcomed BART employees to the buffet and



## BART Nite at the Oakland A's



introduced the evening's speaker, Dave Duncan, the pitching coach for the A's.

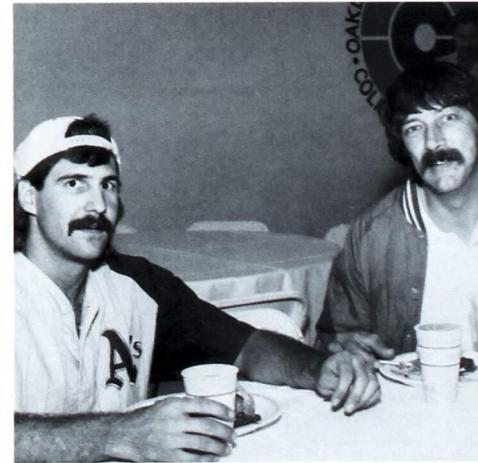
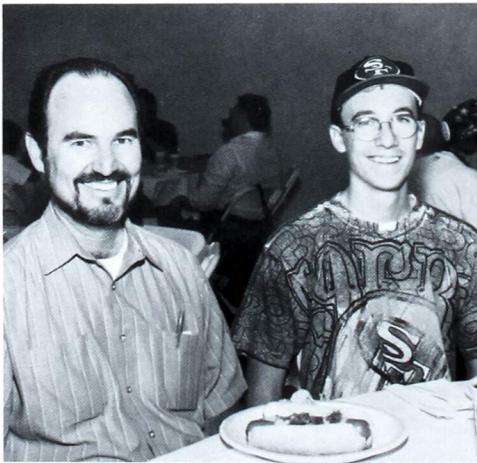
Duncan fielded a variety of questions without making an error. He talked about the status of injuries of various players and reviewed the condition of the pitchers. The only

question he wouldn't answer with a definite prediction was: "Who's going to win the American League West Division?" (The A's won it.).

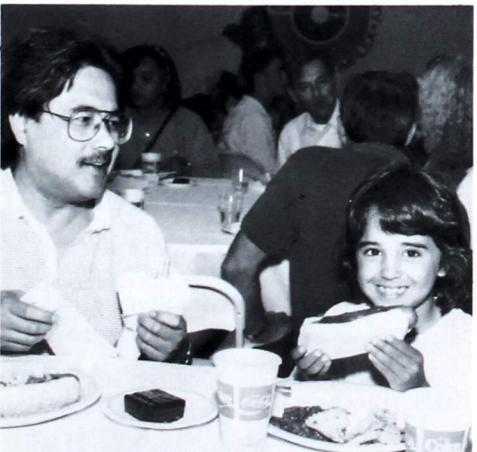
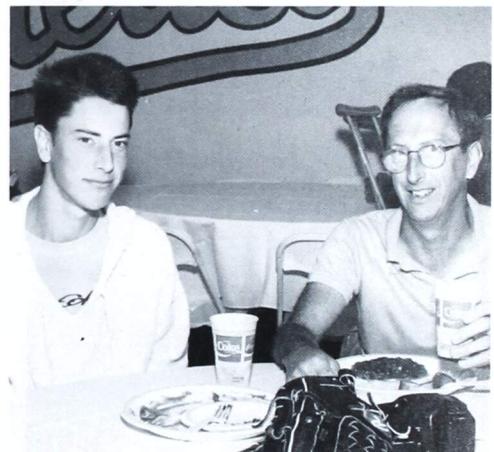
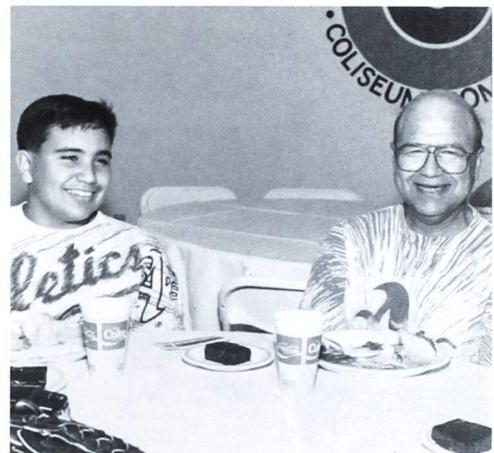
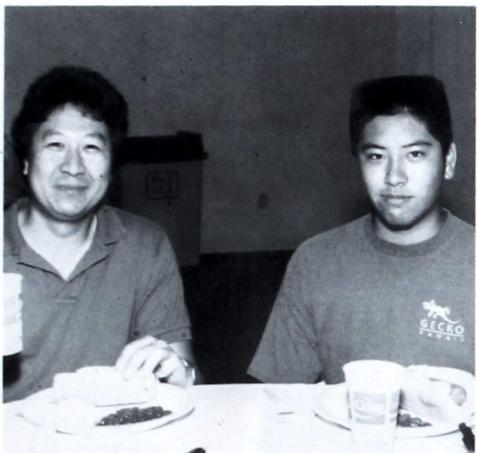
Lyn Grace, BART's Legal Dept., was the winner of an A's warmup jacket and Mike Maeda, Graphics and Presentation, won the opportu-

nity to throw out the ceremonial first pitch of the ball game.

If you missed BART Night at the A's, you missed a fun-filled family event. But remember the old baseball adage: Wait'll next year!

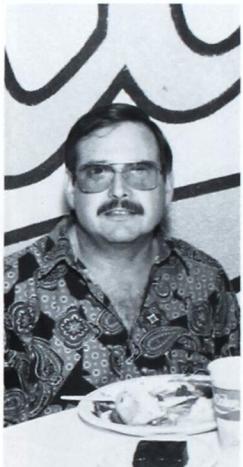
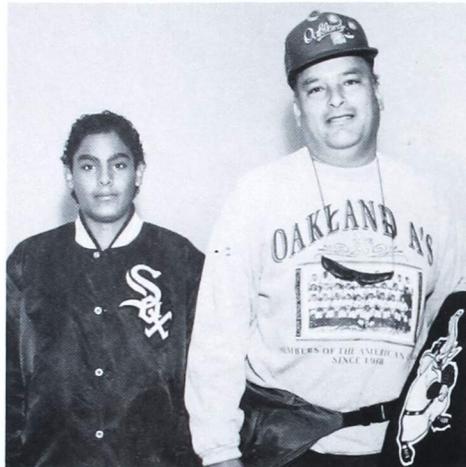
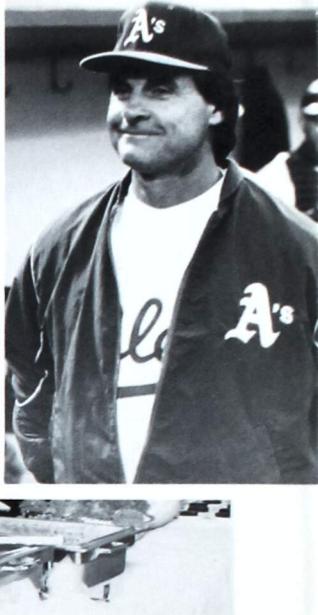


## BART Fans See A's Win, 7-6



**Mike Maeda Throws First Pitch**

Tony La Russa, right, actually appears to be smiling as he seems to survey the crowd of A's fans from BART. The A's won that night and went on to win the American League Western Division Championship.



## Disaster—It's Not Just 'The Other Person'

Disasters don't always happen to the 'other person.' They can happen to you! Just ask the victims of last year's Oakland-Berkeley Hills fire. They can tell you all about the 'you' part of a disaster.

Community service agencies step in with help to the victims of disasters. They helped a year ago when the fire victims needed a place to sleep, something to eat and clothes to wear. They provide help in lots of ways, not just to disaster victims. Thousands of kids have learned to swim through a community service agency. Swimming lessons are a long way from providing food and shelter, but they are part of aiding the community.

Who pays for this help from service community agencies? The answer is You Do! You pay for it through your donations to the Charitable Contributions Campaign.

BART is right in the middle of this year's campaign. Last year, BART employ-

ees donated nearly \$60,000 to five major local agencies and a variety of other causes. This year's goal is \$65,000. Your donation can be directed on your pledge form to a specific organization. The five federations represent thousands of service agencies. They are: the Bay Area Black United Fund, United Way, International Service Agencies, the Progressive Way, Earth Share of California, or another entity of your choice.

Payroll deductions make it easy to help support one of these agencies and BART would like to register all payroll deductions by November 12.

This year's chairperson, Regina Jackson Rasheed, is energetically getting the word out about this year's campaign. It was her idea to include a message on every BART employee paycheck. That's a certain way to make sure that the message about the campaign is read! ☑



## Christmas Faire

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# A Talking A-Car? You're Kidding?

A walking, talking A-Car? An A-Car that poses for photographs with children? You gotta be kidding me!

Oh, no we're not! BARTalk wouldn't kid you about a thing like that!

You see, the good folks in the Government and Community Relations Department, with the help of volunteers from other BART departments, took part in the recent tenth annual Festival at the Lake in Oakland.

For the children's area, they designed and built a cartoon-like figure to be worn by a person, something like a miniature float. The figure, dubbed 'BARTY', looks like the sloping front end of an A-Car. BARTY was on hand for each day of the three-day event to talk to children, hold their hands, pose for photographs and, in general, exude good cheer for BART. BARTalk believes that we should put aside all modesty for a moment and declare that the District's entry, BARTY, was the star of the show!

Now BART also had an entry in the adult part of the event, a booth filled with BART information—from the Extensions to bicycles—and staffed by volunteers



ready and eager to answer questions.

This year's festival, with the theme of 'California: A Taste of the World' included singing, dancing, traditional and contemporary arts, an ethnic food fair, a mini festival for children and special activities for older people.

BART was participating in an event of this type and size for the first-time. The festival, which attracted at least 100,000 people over the three days, gave BART an

## BART Helps

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The consensus is that the summer Youth Program is more than positive for everyone involved. Judy Colemenero in Operations Reliability, says that Trina Jones is the "best summer youth we ever had. I gave her minimal instructions and she was off and running. Dori Bethune-Butler also praised her summer youth saying, "They were very respectful and very independent, especially for young adults. If they didn't know where something was they would ask or sometimes they would find out themselves. They kept things going so well that when the mail was heavy they would do the mail run as we trained them to do—LMA, Metro and MSQ. Everybody misses them."

It is obvious that the youth benefit from their time at BART, but what does BART get? Countless supervisors have commented on the necessity of extra bodies. Dori Bethune-Butler says, "My summer workers showed people that we need bodies to make the mail room run." Nina Pringle in Operations Reliability said, "Trina, our summer youth, made 67 copies

of our daily reports and hand-delivered them each day. She aided us in some of the menial tasks so we were freed up to do the more important things as we try to meet a deadline." Chris Flynn in Engineering and Construction says, "We count on summer youth every year for doing some of that deferred work. We even save it up. It is good for everyone's morale to not have those little jobs hanging over your head."

For both sides the program works. Youth pick up valuable skills and experience that could very well be the key for future success and BART gets the benefit of extra help and the opportunity to make a contribution to the community. The most important thing in this process is cooperation and a little patience. Patricia Hoar advises that you "Spend some time giving them basic training and a project that they will be able to complete by the end of the summer. It's hard because they don't see themselves as workers yet. It can be a big adjustment." Melanie Warren, a fore-worker in Grounds and a first-time supervisor in the Summer Youth Program says, "It takes a little time but once everyone

opportunity to have a decisive presence and to distribute information and tell BART's story.

"The response to our call for volunteers was overwhelming," says Greg Chan, Governmental and Community Relations Officer, "and their participation was a vital part of the success of our presence at the festival." Chan says that BART "could not have accomplished its goals without the BART volunteers. Their hard work, cooperation and friendship could not be surpassed."

BARTalk doffs its cap to the following BART staff: James Archie, Hernan Barron, Sue Bunch, Patri Carter, Patricia Carter, Jorge Castillo, Edna Chan, Don Demer, Loretta Edwards, Faye Elmore, Vivian Faye, Rick Flood, Harley Goldstrom, Karen Hill, Robin Hill, Jim King, Joan Kugler, Kay Lyons, Mike Maeda, Lisa Moland, Pat Patuba, Mary Perez, Stacey Perkins, Manny Quaresma, Art Richardson, Jerry Robinson, Owen Smith, Gertie Taylor, John Thomas, Aminta Thornton, Linda Vasquez, Lulu Watts, April Whitsen, Gary Wight, Tony Williams and Julie Yim. 

understands his or her goals and expectations it smoothes out a bit."

Patience and commitment are things that today's youth need to develop and they most likely will learn by example. "You cannot be afraid of young adults. Learn to give them the same respect we want. We mustn't forget that we were young once, too. Our kids need a chance," says Dori. That is what the Summer Youth program is all about—giving tomorrow's leaders a chance today.

*This article was written by Rebecca Wheeler, one of BART's summer youths and Assistant Coordinator of the program.* 

## EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE?

**If you have not been tardy, sick or on disability within a six-month period, you may be eligible for an award. Contact your area representative for details. Forms are available from Forms Control.**

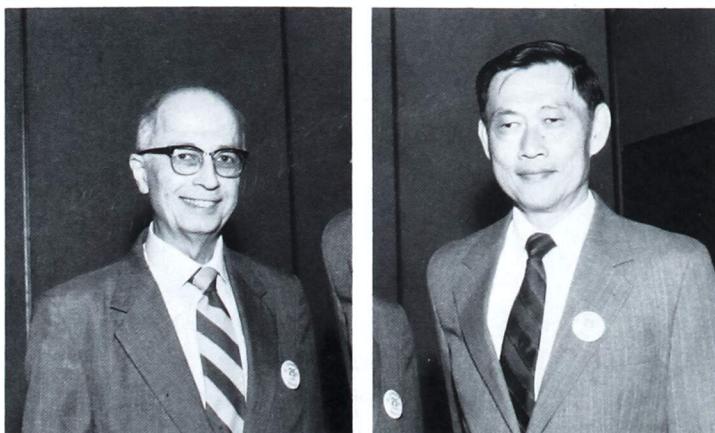
# A Grand Total of 375 Years of Service



Honored for 15 years of BART service were, from left, Lillian Young, Joe Evinger, Francisca Purisma, Jaime Salgado and Pam Cherry.



Twenty-year honorees were, from left, Cleo Gilkey, Robert Souza, Priscilla Zocchi, Sammie Releford, Richard Taylor, Francis Nawahine, Elmer Gomez, Emily Ingram and Francis Young. Kneeling is Louis Vega.



Honored for 25 years of service were Dick Jenevein, left, now retired, and Jim Sung.

## BART Cinco de Mayo Team Tops AC Transit in Seven

Members of BART's Employee's Cinco de Mayo committee softball team will be looking to even the score with a team from AC Transit's Hispanics in Transportation in a rematch at Centennial Park in Hayward.

The BART team lost to the AC Transit team 12 to 13 on October 4. BART lead 12 to 7 at the end of seven official innings. Usually an amateur softball game is considered finished after seven innings, but the BART team agreed to play an additional two innings. The AC Transit team scored the winning run in the bottom of the ninth.

BART's Cinco de Mayo committee team included: Pitcher, Victor Martinez, Affirmative Action, IBB; Catcher, Al Garcia, Supervisor (Shop), Hayward; First Base, Manny Calderon, Train Operator, Hayward; Second Base, Henry Chamberlin, Train Operator, Hayward; Third Base, Ken Duron, Government Relations, LMA; Shortstop, Robert Villalobos, Train Operator, Hayward; and Outfielders, Rich Chavez, Train Operator, Hayward; Kathy Gomez, Train Operator, Hayward; Chris Hudson, Train Operator, Hayward; and Linda Vasquez, Transportation, LMA.

Coaches were Walt Justino, Train Operator, Hayward; and Alex Maldonado, Train Operator, Richmond.

Serving as umpires were BART Director Erlene DeMarcus and Kevin O'Keefe, President of ATU. Director Sue Hone helped lead the BART fans in rooting for their team. Soft drinks, snacks and fajita plates were sold and the proceeds were divided up between the two teams.

The closeness of the score was quite a tribute to the BART team, considering that the BART team had never played together before and the AC Transit contingent was a veteran of many softball encounters.

You can obtain additional information about the upcoming game from Linda Vasquez on Ext. 6762 or Ken Duron on Ext. 6141. ☐

## Christmas Faire: Sign Up Now

There's no time to waste if you want to take part in BART's Employee Christmas Faire. Reserve your space right now. Call Vicki Wills - Ext. 7115.

This year's Christmas Faire is scheduled for December 3 and 4.

Learn  
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R

Call Ext. 6292  
or 6293

**BARTalk**

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